

REPORT has it that an attempt will be made during the coming session of the legislature to repeal the present law regarding court funds. Now each county has its own court fund and if the taxes are not collected the courts are crippled. Formerly the court fund was paid into the territorial treasury and warrants were issued for court expenses. Holders of these warrants were politely told that there was no money on hand with which to pay them when they were presented and were obliged to sell them at a big discount. Grant county always paid more than other counties of the territory into the territorial treasury for the court fund in proportion to the assessed valuation, but the citizens of Grant county were obliged to wait as long for the payment of their court certificates as did the citizens of Valencia and other counties which paid very little into the court fund. The present law is good enough.

THE finances of this county will not be in such bad shape as they have been for the past two or three years when the judgments which were obtained at the last term of court are collected and the county is relieved of the \$57,000 in railroad bonds. The judgments will go a long way toward paying the floating indebtedness of the county, and the bonded indebtedness of the county, exclusive of the railroad bonds, is but \$161,300, nearly all of which is in bonds issued in 1889. The new law which goes into effect on the first of next month reducing the fees of county officers will enable the county commissioners to keep the expenses of the county within the receipts and, instead of increasing the floating debt, there can be some reduction made in the amount of the county's obligations.

GOVERNOR THORNTON is in Washington talking statehood to democratic senators and Secretary Miller is in Missouri where he was called last week on account of the illness of his mother, so that New Mexico is, for the time being, without an executive. It is expected that Secretary Miller will return about the last of this week, when he will resume his duties as acting governor.

ELECTION contests appear to be quite the fashion now. About half of the counties in the territory have contests on hand and, in some instances, a great deal of bitter feeling has been stirred up. Election frauds have undoubtedly been perpetrated and the perpetrators ought to be put in the penitentiary.

SEVERAL new county schemes are being talked of and the legislature will probably have before it for consideration several bills of this nature. Most of the counties in the territory are now badly

in debt and the expense of additional county governments would only be adding to the burdens of the taxpayers.

THE town is full of tramps—sturdy, insolent beggars. Refuse them aid, load your guns and, if necessary, use them.—Sentinel.

What a fine reception the Sentinel proposes for American citizens out of work and suffering for the necessities of life! We supposed that even a man out of employment had a right to live.

LEADING democrats from New Mexico and Arizona are now in Washington trying to convince the democratic senators that the two territories didn't mean it when they went republican last month. Should they succeed in doing this there is yet hope for the admission of New Mexico.

THERE will be quite a number of contests before the territorial legislature when it convenes on the last of this month, and it is simply a matter of conjecture as to how it will stand after the contests shall have been settled.

THE price of silver has fallen two cents an ounce since the election last month. This fact does not seem to indicate that there is a general feeling of confidence that the republican party will restore silver to its rightful position.

A WICKED newspaper man has suggested that the president's gout settled in his brain just before he commenced his last message.

THE board of county commissioners of Santa Fe county will hold a meeting next Tuesday to consider the bond question.

H. B. FERGUSON has gone to Washington to urge the passage of the bill for the admission of New Mexico.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

CLEVELAND'S MESSAGE.

Cleveland's message does not bring delight to the hearts of the silver men, and only goes to show the correctness of the position taken by the Advertiser. The west has been joined to the east by reason of a robber tariff, and when it comes to any measure that will tend to make us financially more independent, the entire east, irrespective of party, join in the movement to squelch us.—Industrial Advertiser.

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT.

Several of the territorial papers are crying loudly for the Australian ballot. That ballot is a little too complicated for the average voter. There are many complaints against this way of voting in the states that have adopted it. New York is about to adopt the voting ma-

chine, by the aid of which the voter presses the knob and the machine does the rest. New Mexico can afford to wait till this experiment is tried, and if it is a success adopt it. New Mexico now has a law making provisions regarding the ballots, but little attention is paid to it, and it may be the election officers would pay no more attention to an Australian ballot.—Western Liberal.

ROARS AND TEARS.

The Dona Ana ballots were counted under a judicial ruling made by Judge John R. McFie and in full accord with the arguments made by McFie and Newcomb before the canvassing board in relation to returns from other precincts. When they found that they had been arguing against themselves, they roared and Newcomb wept, but roars and tears were too late. It was a case of "didn't know it was loaded."—Independent Democrat.

MILITIA WARRANTS.

Twenty-five per cent. of the militia warrants, sought to be funded by the holders thereof, in a pool for favorable legislation will amount to a very large sum, provided all the holders of these warrants, and it is understood there is a very large amount out, nearly a million and a half, put up. If the scheme goes through, the corruption fund will be very, very large indeed, even in warrants and if 25 per cent. of the face value should be collected in cash, what a fine time and what a lot of money the promoters would be sure of. Great scheme that.—Santa Fe Republican.

THE TERRITORIAL CAPITAL.

There is not much heard at present about the removal of the capital to Albuquerque. Times are too tight and money too scarce. Still the citizens of this city had best be on the lookout. Eternal vigilance is the price of the retention of the capital here.—Santa Fe Republican.

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